

**U.S. Embassy Georgetown Presents  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest**

The United States Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana is pleased to announce a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest. The contest will promote awareness and understanding of the message that Dr. King expressed through his work in the civil rights movement and help us to remember, honor, and understand his legacy.

The contest is open to students, ages 12 to 16 in public and private schools throughout Guyana. Students are encouraged to write a typewritten, double-spaced essay of 600 to 1,000 words on the following topic:

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called for a “genuine revolution of values” through which our loyalties would become “ecumenical rather than sectional.” He explained:**

*“This call for a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one’s tribe, race, class and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all men...Let us hope that this spirit will become the order of the day. We can no longer afford to worship the god of hate or bow before the altar of retaliation. The oceans of history are made turbulent by the ever-rising tides of hate. History is cluttered with the wreckage of nations and individuals that pursued this self-defeating path of hate.”*

**How can young people in Guyana contribute to the advancement of Dr. King’s “revolution of values” that reflects unconditional love for all people regardless of tribe, race, class, or creed? How can you help make this spirit “the order of the day” in your community and country?**

**Entries are due by 5:00pm on December 15, 2011.** A monetary reward (for the purchase of books and school supplies) will be given to the First (GYD \$40,000), Second (GYD \$20,000), and Third (GYD \$10,000) Place winners selected. The First Place winner will be given the opportunity to read their essay aloud at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Ceremony, hosted by the Ambassador on January 17, 2012. Winners will be selected (and notified by January 10, 2012) based on the following criteria:

- Effective organization/expression – 30%
- Relevancy to theme – 30%
- Originality – 20%
- Grammar – 20%

Essay entries, accompanied by an official entry form, may be submitted by:

E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

Fax to: (592)-225-8497

Mail to: U.S. Embassy, 100 Young and Duke Streets; Kingston, Georgetown, Guyana;  
P.O. Box 10507

**\*Family members of U.S. Embassy employees/contractors are not eligible to participate.**